

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
9 June 2005 (09.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/051294 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/038774
- (22) International Filing Date:
18 November 2004 (18.11.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
PI 20034440 19 November 2003 (19.11.2003) MY
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- (81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE,
SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**
— *without international search report and to be republished
upon receipt of that report*
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: RECOVERY OF PHYTONUTRIENTS FROM OILS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an improved and integrated process for the extraction and purification of tocotrienols or tocopherols, carotenoids and sterols from vegetable and other edible oils. Fatty acids in the vegetable oils are subjected to alcoholic osterification to form ester-rich layer that includes fatty acid alkyl esters, carotenoids, tocotrienols or tocopherols, and sterols. The advantages of this process are that the tocotrienols or tocopherols, carotenoids and sterols are produced efficiently without any substantial decomposition or degradation of these phytonutrients.

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